

## THE TRUTH OUT

As to Who Did Really Shoot Up Brownsville, Tex.

## SHOOTER CONFESSES

To a Negro Detective, who Had Been Employed to Work the Case Up by the War Department—A Discharged Negro Soldier Tells All About It.

Washington, Dec. 15.—President Roosevelt sent to the Senate Tuesday a special message in reference to the shooting up of Brownsville, Texas, by a battalion of negro soldiers in the summer of 1906. Included in the message is the general report of inspection by Herbert J. Brown, a colored detective, who was employed by the war department in conjunction with Capt. W. G. Baldwin to probe the occurrence at Brownsville. Brown submitted the following to the detectives agency, which he says is the confession of Boyd Conyers, one of the discharged negro soldiers, who now lives at Monroe, Ga., and who helped shoot up the Texas town in August, 1906. In his confession to Brown Conyers says:

The rumors of trouble over the assignment of colored troops to Brownsville were circulated before the troops left Fort Niobrara, and preparations were made among the men to "get even with the crackers," so the whites were called. Some cartridges were held out at range practice, but more en route to Brownsville. Pretence was made that they were given away at stations along the road. Some were, but a large number were secreted.

At inspection in Brownsville, Lieut. Lawrence, Company B, threatened punishment to the men who were short of ammunition, but nothing was done about it, and the deficiency was supplied.

The friction with citizens of Brownsville began at once. In Boyd Conyers' language, "Whiskey made all the trouble. If we hadn't been drinking we wouldn't have had the nerve to shoot up the town."

It was agreed, as a gathering of a few men in the saloon of Allison, the colored ex-soldier, on the afternoon of August 13, 1906, that the raid should take place that night at 12 o'clock. It seems to have been delayed a few minutes to let Tamayo, the Mexican scavenger, get away from the B barracks.

John Holloman, the money lender of Company B, was the chief conspirator and leader in the raid and custodian and distributor of the cartridges, but his plans could not have been carried out had not Sergt. George Jackson, of Company B, in charge of the keys to the gun racks in B barracks, and Sergt. Reid, in command of the guards, co-operated both before and after the raid.

The four men who led the raid were John Holloman, John Brown, Boyd Conyers and Carolina de Saussure, all of Company B (and probably R. L. Collier, of Company C.) Holloman was in barracks, Brown in the bake shop, Conyers and de Saussure in the guard house. The two latter were in the same detail, and had been relieved at about 11 o'clock, de Saussure on the post at the guard house, and Conyers on No. 2, around the barracks and facing the town. Holloman got the party together. Conyers and de Saussure slept on the same bunk in the guard house, claiming that they wanted to get under the mosquito net, and they had the trick of taking their guns into the bunk instead of placing them in the open rack, on the excuse that they didn't rust so badly under cover, but really so the absence of the guns from the open guard house rack would not attract attention, and their own absence would be ascribed to a visit to the closet, which was back of the guard house. These two men slipped out the rear door of the guard house, passed through the Sally port, and joined Holloman and Brown.

The party crossed the wall of the fort down near the end of A barracks, went up the roadway to the entrance to the Cowen alley, where the signal shots were fired. These shots were immediately followed by the alarm shots of Joseph B. Howard, guard on No. 2, and formed the series testified to by Mrs. Katie E. Leaby, of Brownsville. Her testimony is further borne out by the statement that not over thirty seconds elapsed before a number of men of Company B swarmed out on the upper gallery and opened a fusillade on the town.

It is an absolute certainty that it would have been impossible for Sergt. Jackson to have opened the gun racks, for the men to have assembled, secured their guns, loaded them, gone out to the gallery, and started firing, all after the first shot was fired, all around, as they testified unanimously, from sound slumber, in less than two minutes, in the confusion of a dark barracks room. Beyond the possibility of a doubt, the racks had been opened and the inside conspirators were ready to pour out on the signal shots. The testimony is ample that there were scarcely twenty seconds between the last of the signal shots and the first general volley from B barracks.

The number firing from the barracks is unknown, but perhaps twenty men were involved. A smaller number went to the ground and followed the leaders up the alley. It will be remembered that one of the witnesses testified to hearing some one of the group of soldiers exclaim, "There they go!" Whereupon these men leaped over the wall and ran up the alley.

Boyd Conyers is the man whose gun jammed at the exit of the alley by the Cowen house, testified to by Herbert Elkins, and it was taken from him by de Saussure and fixed in the street where the light from the street lamp at the corner of Elizabeth street shone on them.

Less than five minutes elapsed from the time the first shot was fired until these men were all back inside the fort.

Conyers stated that Reid was told that they were going to shoot up the town, and he had laughed and said, "Don't go out there and let the crackers get the best of you."

When Conyers and de Saussure reached the guard house they ran in the back way and got into their bunks. Sergt. Reid came in and swore at them, but Conyers was so excited and out of breath that he could hardly stand, so Reid stationed him at the rear of the guard house in the dark, where he could not be scrutinized so closely.

Holloman came around with extra cartridges about daybreak and Reid passed them out. The guns were all cleaned before daylight.

## ROBBER KILLED.

IN RUNNING MIDNIGHT FIGHT BY OFFICERS.

TheB andits Were Getting Ready to Rob the Banks of the Town and Showed Fight.

Greenwich, O., Dec. 16.—In a running midnight encounter between a gang of safe-crackers and the police of this village, Night Marshal Wood was hurt, and one of the burglars slain.

The other burglar escaped, carrying one of their number.

Marshal Wood accosted a man standing near the postoffice and acting in a suspicious manner. In reply to questions, the unknown man said he was a stranger in the town, but desired to leave on a freight train.

The marshal escorted him to the railroad and just as they reached the tracks four other men suddenly jumped from behind a car and ordered the officer to throw up his hands.

He complied, but in one hand he had an automatic revolver which he fired, one bullet piercing the heart of one of the quartet. The firing was returned by the other men and the marshal was struck in the back. As he fell, the men beat him into insensibility and then escaped.

The firing aroused the town and the wounded marshal was found in the railroad yards. A posse searched the surrounding territory for the men. The dead man was about 35 years of age and well dressed.

### CAN'T SCARE JOSEPH.

Pulitzer Says He Will Edit His Paper From Jail.

New York, Dec. 16.—Joseph Pulitzer, of The World, in replying to the tirade of President Roosevelt, says:

"So far as I am personally concerned, I was at sea during the whole of October and, in fact, practically for two years I have been yachting on account of my health. I never read a word or syllable of this Panama story, was not in connection with the paper and had nothing to do with it. Mr. Roosevelt knows all this perfectly. He knows I am a chronic invalid and mostly abroad yachting on account of my health. I think his anger is simply due to the sharp attacks made by The World on him politically. For that perhaps, I am responsible; that is for the political criticism of Roosevelt on public and political grounds solely. I am really sorry he should be so very angry, but The World will continue to criticize him without a shadow of fear, if he should succeed in compelling me to edit the paper from jail.

### WHITE FIEND LYNCHED.

By a Mob at Monticello, Ky., for His Crime.

Monticello, Ky., Dec. 17.—Elmer Hill, a white man, was taken from jail here this morning by an armed mob of about thirty men and hanged to a tree just outside of the city. Hill was incarcerated on the charge of assaulting Mamie Womack, aged 13 years, and murdering her.

Hill, when taken from the post, flatly denied the charge, but when the rope had been placed around his neck and he apparently saw no way of escape he told the story of the crime.

He said the girl was coming home from school when he attacked her, tying a handkerchief around her neck and strangling her. When the girl was unconscious he took her into the woods and killed her.

### Seven Men Drown.

St. Pierre, Me., Dec. 15.—Seven members of the crew of the French warship Admiral Aube, who started for the shore last night are missing, and it is thought all were drowned.

racks is unknown, but perhaps twenty men were involved. A smaller number went to the ground and followed the leaders up the alley. It will be remembered that one of the witnesses testified to hearing some one of the group of soldiers exclaim, "There they go!" Whereupon these men leaped over the wall and ran up the alley.

Boyd Conyers is the man whose gun jammed at the exit of the alley by the Cowen house, testified to by Herbert Elkins, and it was taken from him by de Saussure and fixed in the street where the light from the street lamp at the corner of Elizabeth street shone on them.

Less than five minutes elapsed from the time the first shot was fired until these men were all back inside the fort.

Conyers stated that Reid was told that they were going to shoot up the town, and he had laughed and said, "Don't go out there and let the crackers get the best of you."

When Conyers and de Saussure reached the guard house they ran in the back way and got into their bunks. Sergt. Reid came in and swore at them, but Conyers was so excited and out of breath that he could hardly stand, so Reid stationed him at the rear of the guard house in the dark, where he could not be scrutinized so closely.

Holloman came around with extra cartridges about daybreak and Reid passed them out. The guns were all cleaned before daylight.

## THE POPULAR VOTE

DEMOCRATS MADE BIG GAINS OVER LAST ELECTION.

Hearst's Independence Party Polled Less Than One Hundred Thousand Votes in Whole Country.

New York, Dec. 15.—The total popular vote of the various presidential candidates at the last election was made known today in an official form by the filing of the last of the official vote, that of Michigan. The total shows the following votes cast:

Taft, (Republican) . . . . . 7,637,676  
Bryan, (Democratic) . . . . . 6,393,182  
Debs, (Socialist) . . . . . 447,651  
Chafin, (Prohibitionist) . . . . . 241,252  
Hisgen, (Independent) . . . . . 83,186  
Watson, (Populist) . . . . . 33,871  
Gilhaus, (Socialist Labor) . . . . . 15,421

Total for all candidates, 14,852,239. This grand total exceeds by 1,341,531 the total number of votes cast in the presidential election of 1904, when the grand total was 13,510,708.

Compared with that election the candidates of the Republican, Democratic and Socialist parties increased their vote this year. The reverse is true of the candidates of the Prohibition, Populist and Socialist Labor parties. The Independent party did not figure in the presidential election of four years ago.

The biggest difference in a party is shown in an increase for Bryan of 1,315,211, over the total vote cast in 1904 for Alton B. Parker, the Democratic candidate. Taft received 14,190 votes more than were polled for President Roosevelt in 1904, and Debs ran 45,368 ahead of his predecessor on the Socialist ticket.

The heaviest loss is shown by the Populist, who, with the same candidate, registered 83,312 less this year than in 1904, when their total was 117,183. The Prohibitionist candidate, Chafin, ran 17,284 votes behind the 1904 mark of his party, and Gilhaus, the Socialist Labor candidate, received only about 50 per cent of the vote given to Corigan, which was 31,249, in the previous presidential race.

The following is the vote received by Bryan and Taft in each of the Southern States:

State.	Taft.	Bryan.
Alabama . . . . .	25,308	74,734
Arkansas . . . . .	56,967	87,043
Florida . . . . .	19,654	31,104
Georgia . . . . .	41,692	72,350
Kentucky . . . . .	235,711	244,092
Louisiana . . . . .	9,589	63,568
Maryland . . . . .	111,253	111,117
Mississippi . . . . .	4,463	64,250
Missouri . . . . .	346,915	345,884
North Carolina . . . . .	114,887	136,928
Oklahoma . . . . .	110,550	123,907
South Carolina . . . . .	3,847	62,289
Tennessee . . . . .	118,287	125,630
Texas . . . . .	69,229	237,264
Virginia . . . . .	52,573	82,946

The Socialist polled 15,398 votes in North Carolina, 21,752 in Oklahoma, 8,524 in Texas. In no other Southern State did they poll over 5,000. In South Carolina they polled 101 votes.

### Reaped a Rich Harvest.

Fake Palmist Robbed Those Who Took His Advice.

Atlanta, Dec. 16.—The police of this city are anxious to locate "Professor" Frank West, alias Prof. May, alleged palmist, medium and reader, against whom charges of theft were filed by several persons.

He is alleged to have prevailed upon his subjects to hand over to him articles of jewelry, money, etc., to be placed in a bag fastened around their necks and worn until such time as he might direct.

Following West's disappearance from the city this week several of his subjects opened the "conjurer's" bags, and to their dismay, instead of finding the articles or cash which they were led to believe the "Professor" placed therein, they found wads of paper, etc.

One victim, Levi Armstrong, claims that he lost three \$100 bills by this process, while Miss Jessie Haley says that West robbed her of two diamond rings and a diamond brooch valued at \$200. Another woman alleges that West "treated" her at her residence, and as a result a lot of silverware is missing.

### Want Editors Known.

Washington, Dec. 15.—With the view of letting the public know what influences operate upon it through the press, Representative Cooper, of Texas, today introduced a bill to exclude newspapers and magazines from the mails unless the names of the owner and editor or officers, directors and stockholders be printed on its front page.

### Drugged and Robbed.

Washington, Dec. 15.—John H. Schelek, a prominent Mason, of Charlotte, N. C., was drugged and robbed of \$600 and 250 shares of Atlanta Milling and Mining stock early Tuesday morning while riding in a hack with two strangers.

### Blew Up Bank Safe.

McAlester, Okla., Dec. 15.—Robbers today dynamited the safe of the First National Bank of Eufala, Okla., and escaped with a sum said to be \$2,700.

## TEDDY FOAMS

Roosevelt Uses Strong Words in Message on Panama, Says Pulitzer Lies

About and Slanders the Nation When He Charges a Deal in the Buying of the Panama Canal and Suit Will be Brought Against Him Says the President.

Washington, Dec. 15.—President Roosevelt today sent to the Senate a statement concerning the purchase of the Panama canal property by the United States, denouncing in strong language the charges that there was anything wrong in the acquisition by the United States of the canal property.

"These stories," he continues, "were first brought to my attention as published in a paper in Indianapolis called The News, edited by Mr. Delavan Smith. The stories were scurrilous and libelous in character, and false in every essential particular."

"Smith shelters himself behind the excuse that he merely accepted the statements which had appeared in a paper published in New York—'The World'—owned by Joseph Pulitzer."

Summarizing the charges made in this connection the President says in part: "These statements sometimes appeared in editorials, sometimes in the shape of contributions from individuals, either unknown or known to be of bad character."

"They are false in every particular from beginning to end. The wickedness of these slanders is only surpassed by their fatuity. So utterly baseless are the stories that apparently they represent in part merely the material collected for campaign purposes and in part stories originally connected with a view of possible blackmail."

The President adds: "Now these stories as a matter of fact, need no investigation whatever; no shadow of proof has been or can be produced in behalf of any of them; they consist simply of a string of infamous libels. In form they are in part libels upon individuals, upon Mr. Taft and Mr. Robinson, for instance; but they are in fact wholly and in form partly, libel upon the United States government. I do not believe we should concern ourselves with the particular individuals who wrote the lying and libelous editorials, articles from correspondents or articles in the news columns."

"The real offender is Mr. Joseph Pulitzer, editor and proprietor of 'The World.' While the criminal offense of which Pulitzer has been guilty is in the form of libel upon individuals, the great injury done is in blackening the good name of the American people. It should not be left to a private citizen to sue Pulitzer for libel. He should be prosecuted for libel by the governmental authorities."

The president continued: "It is therefore a high national duty to bring to justice this villifier of the American people."

The President says: "The Attorney General has under consideration the form in which the proceedings against Mr. Pulitzer shall be brought."

The president then explains the method of concluding the purchase, saying the transaction was carried through by the then Attorney General Knox and not by Mr. Hay or Mr. Root. The President accepts all the responsibility for carrying out the will of Congress. He says that his government had nothing to do with the distribution of the \$40,000,000. He also includes a copy of the statement made by Cromwell on December 11.

### SENATOR TILLMAN.

Senior Senator in His Seat for the First Time.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senator Tillman was for the first time during this session in his seat when the senate opened up yesterday morning, having reached here this morning. The senator is looking well. He is just in time to get into the great Panama scrap which threatens to materialize if the senate and the country does not let President Roosevelt bluff them out of doing anything. Whether the senator will take part depends, he says, upon whether he can find any rocks to throw.

### Will Get Good Sum.

Washington, Dec. 15.—It has just been announced by the Secretary of the Interior that the State of South Carolina is entitled to receive the sum of \$25,000 from the government for the promotion of schools of agriculture and mechanical arts, under the Act of 1862.

### Goes Up for Life.

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 15.—Thomas Bridson, slayer of Dr. A. B. Fitts, a prominent physician of Hazlehurst, today entered a plea of guilty in accordance with an agreement between counsel and was given a life sentence in the penitentiary.

## CASUALTY RECORD

THOUSANDS KILLED AND MILLIONS ARE INJURED.

Accidents Are Excessive, Says Bureau of Labor, and Record Could be Much Better.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Between 30,000 and 35,000 deaths and 2,000,000 injured is the accident record in the United States during the past year among workmen, according to a bulletin on accidents issued by the bureau of labor.

Of those employed in the factories and workshops it is stated that probably the most exposed class are the workers in iron and steel. Fatal accidents among electricians and electric linemen and coal miners are declared to be excessive, while railway trainmen were killed in the proportion of 7.46 deaths per 1,000 employees.

The bulletin declares that much that could be done for the protection of the workmen is neglected, though many and far reaching improvements have been introduced in factory practice during the last decade. It is pointed out that the possibilities for successful accident prevention have been clearly demonstrated in the experience of foreign countries.

"Granting," the bulletin states "that the underlying conditions in European countries are often quite different and that many of our industrial accidents may be the result of ignorance, reckless indifference, or carelessness, the fact remains that an immense amount of human life is wasted and a vast amount of injury is done to health and strength, with resulting physical impairment, which has a very considerable economic value to the nation as a whole."

It is insisted that it should not be impossible to save at least one-third and perhaps one-half by intelligent and rational methods of factory inspection, legislation and control.

### VALUE OF OUR CROPS.

Revised Estimate of Farm Products for This Year.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The production in 1908 and farm value of December 1 of important farm products, according to the final revised estimates of the department of agriculture, announced today, was as follows:

Corn, 2,668,651,000 bushels; farm value, \$1,616,145,000.  
Winter wheat, 407,908,000 bushels; value, \$410,330,000.  
Spring wheat, 226,694,000; \$204,446,000.  
Oats, 807,156,000 bushels; \$381,171,000.  
Barley, 166,756,000 bushels, \$92,442,000.

Figures for other crops included: Rye, 31,856,000 bushels, \$23,455,000.  
Buck wheat, 15,874,000 bushels; \$12,004,000.  
Flax seed, 25,805,000 bushels; \$30,577,000.  
Peas, 21,890,000 bushels; \$17,771,000.  
Potatoes, 278,985,000; \$197,039,000.  
Hay, 70,798,000 tons; \$635,423,000.  
Tobacco, 718,061,000 pounds; \$75,130,000.

### FIEND CAUGHT.

Who Attempted Criminal Assault on a Woman.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 15.—The usually quiet county of Stanley is in a state of intense excitement tonight over the first case in the history of the county of criminal assault of a white woman by a negro, and it is feared that there may be mob violence before tomorrow at Alhambra, where Henry Young, colored, is in jail, having been beaten into unconsciousness at the home of John R. Moss, near Whitney, late today by Moss and George Leffer, who, attracted to the home of Moss by the screams of Mrs. Moss, found her in the clutches of the negro, making desperate efforts to reach the telephone to call for help.

When the negro attacked Mrs. Moss, she ran into the house and locked the doors. Young broke down a door and entered, and seizing the woman, a desperate struggle ensued. Upon the arrival of Moss and Leffer, they had a struggle and fist fight with the negro before they subdued him. Sheriff Green was called and took the prisoner to the jail at Alhambra.

### War Declared.

Washington, Dec. 17.—A dispatch has been received at the state department from Paxton Hibbin, secretary of legation at Bogota, Columbia, in which it is stated that Venezuela has declared war against Holland.

### Thirteen Men Killed.

Vienna, Dec. 17.—Thirteen men were killed in an explosion of fire damp Wednesday morning in a mine near Roszka, Hungary.

### Collapse of Bridge.

Martinsburg, W. Va., Dec. 17.—Four persons were killed Wednesday in the collapse of a span of the new bridge across the Patomac here.

## AN ANGRY MOB

TAKES POSSESSION OF THE CITY OF CARACAS.

The Officers of President Castro's Paper and Business Houses of His Friends Wrecked.

Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 16.—The people of Caracas arose today against President Castro. An infuriated mob, unhindered by the police, swept through the city wrecking the property of his henchmen and closest friends.

The people rounded up all the statues and pictures of President Castro from the clubs and other semi-public buildings and burned them with rejoicing on the Plaza Bolivar, Castro's rule in Venezuela probably is ended.

In spite of Holland's warlike activity on the coast there have been no demonstrations against the Netherlands; they all have been directed against President Castro and acting President Gomez.

An enormous crowd of inhabitants of the capital swelled by the people from the outlying country, gathered in the streets soon after daybreak, and it was good for President Castro that he was in Europe and not at home; he might have feared badly at the hands of the mob.

The first building to be attacked and looted was that of the Lottery Monopoly. The officers of the State enterprise that has enriched itself at the expense of the people were ransacked and pillaged. Furniture was broken and thrown into the streets and thousands of lottery tickets were destroyed.

The crowd then moved to the printing office of El Constitucional, the organ of President Castro, of which Gumerindo Rivas is editor, and pillaged it completely. A steam laundry belonging to Senor Rivas also was wrecked.

The statues and pictures of President Castro were made into a huge bonfire on the Plaza Bolivar. The crowd cheered as the flames completed the destruction of these effigies of the dictator.

Numerous inscriptions setting forth the virtues of Castro and extolling his powers next attracted the attention of the mob, and every inscription bearing Castro's name was hacked out and erased. Some of these legends were carved on the public buildings of the city.

It was after 1 o'clock before the crowd had gotten thus far in its depredations. It lacked leadership and paused in default of other fields for its destructive energies. It was then that a detachment of troops was called out for duty on the city streets, and acting President Gomez issued a manifesto prohibiting further manifestations.

These measures had the desired effect, for the mob quieted down and then dispersed, after having burned many offices and stores of the friends of President Castro. Several people were killed and the indications are that Venezuela is on the verge of revolution. It is not known when President Castro, who is now in Berlin, will return, but when he does he will not be recognized as President any longer.

### CRIMES IN THE PIEDMONT.

Homicides in the Up-Country State the People.

Spartanburg, Dec. 16.—Law-abiding citizens of this county and section are worked up over a perfect wave of crime that has prevailed during the last few days. The record since Friday night is three homicides, one murderous assault and robbery and one stabbing that is likely to prove fatal.

George Mintz, white, has been arrested on charge of knocking Mrs. Sallie Green, who lives at Campobello, in the head with an axe and robbing her of \$75. The old lady is not expected to live.

On Saturday night Dump Dorroh, colored, shot and killed Jess Leak, also colored, at Switzer. Dorroh was arrested.

On Saturday night Griff Parks and a colored man named Kilgore became involved in a quarrel in Laurens county, just across the Spartanburg line. Parks shot and killed Kilgore.

Two white men, employed in construction work on the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio, fell out about some work and one man drew his knife and stabbed the other. The injured man is expected to die.

On Saturday two white men employed at Leonard & Beckman's camp on the C. C. and O., engaged in a quarrel and one killed the other.

Mrs. Thomas, an aged lady of this city, while walking through Spring street late on Saturday evening after a shopping tour, was struck down and robbed by a negro, who made his escape.

One white man shot and killed another over in Cherokee.

### Another Vessel Sighted.

The Hague, Dec. 15.—It is reported here that the Dutch warships, operating on the coast of Venezuela have captured another Venezuelan coast guard vessel, known as "23 de Mayo." The Mayo's crew was landed on the Venezuelan coast and the vessel herself is proceeding to Curacao in charge of a prize crew.

## MORE HOT STUFF

Pulitzer Comments Sar